

1641

Attorney Docket No. 3477-94

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Gawad
Serial No.: 10/018,614
Filed: April 15, 2002
For: METHOD FOR CONDUCTING CHEMILUMINESCENT BINDING
ASSAY

Group Art Unit: 1641
Confirmation No. 5111
Examiner: Nelson C. Yang

March 24, 2004

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This reply is submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 24, 2004. In the Office Action, claims 1-40 have been restricted as follows:

Group I: Claims 1-27, drawn to a method for conducting a binding assay, classified in class 435, subclass 4; or

Group II: Claims 28-40, drawn to an apparatus comprising a plastic cartridge comprising an elongated capture strip, classified in class 435, subclass 287.7.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant hereby elects the claims of Group I (claims 1-27 drawn to a method for conducting a binding assay) without traverse.

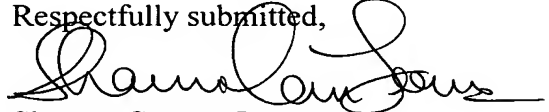
Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for substantive examination, which action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is also encouraged to contact the undersigned directly at (919) 854-1400, if such contact will expedite the examination and allowance of the pending claims.

It is not believed that any fee(s), including fees for additional claims, are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. In the event, however, that additional fees are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such an extension

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is also hereby petitioned for under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). Any additional fees believed to be due in connection with this paper may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Respectfully submitted,



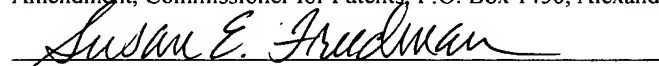
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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Susan E. Freedman

Date of Signature: March 24, 2004